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News Release

In Cooperation with the West Virginia Department of Agriculture

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WEST VIRGINIA PRELIMINARY 2007 FRUIT PRODUCTION

WEST VIRGINIA - Total **apple production** for 2007 was 80.0 million pounds, 11 percent less than the 2006 estimate of 90.0 million pounds. Utilized production totaled 77.0 million pounds, a decrease of 11 million from 2006. Bearing acres in the State were estimated at 5,000 acres, unchanged from 2006, with an average yield per acre of 16,000 pounds, 2,000 pounds less than 2006. The average price per pound for apples was 9.6 cents, up 0.4 cents from 2006. Value of utilized production totaled 7.39 million dollars, down 8 percent from 2006.

Peach production totaled 4,200 tons, down 19 percent or 1,000 tons from 2006. Utilized production in 2007 totaled 4,000 tons, down 20 percent or 1,000 tons from last year. Bearing acres were estimated at 950 acres, unchanged from 2006, with an average yield of 4.42 tons per acre, a decrease of 1.05 tons. The price received per ton was estimated at 858 dollars, an increase of 280 dollars from 2006. Value of utilized production totaled 3.43 million dollars - a 19 percent increase from 2006.

UNITED STATES - Total **apple production** in the U.S. during 2007 was estimated at 9.34 billion pounds, 5 percent less than 2006. Of the total production, 9.30 billion pounds were utilized, down 5 percent from the 2006 level. Bearing acres were estimated at 363,440 acres, down 6,550 acres from 2006, with an average yield per acre of 25,700 pounds, 900 pounds less than 2006. Growers received an average of 25.8 cents per pound, an increase of 2.9 cents from 2006. Value of utilized production totaled 2.40 billion dollars, an increase of 7 percent from 2006.

The U.S. total **peach production** (including California Clingstone) in 2007 was estimated at 1.11 million tons, up 10 percent from 2006. Of this production, 1.10 million tons were utilized, up 12 percent from the previous year. Bearing acres were estimated at 134,140 acres, down 720 acres from 2006, with an average yield of 8.30 tons per acre, an increase of 0.81 tons. The average price received per ton for peaches was 453 dollars per ton, down 67 dollars from 2006. Value of utilized production totaled 498.6 million dollars, down 3 percent from 2006.